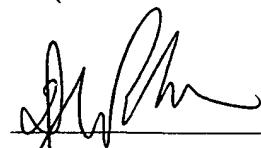


U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER 10873.1679USWO
TRANSMITTAL LETTER TO THE UNITED STATES DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US) CONCERNING A FILING UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371		U.S. APPLICATION NO. (If known, see 37 C.F.R. 1.5) <b>10/532038</b> Unknown
INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. PCT/JP2003/013397	INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE 20 October 2003	PRIORITY DATE CLAIMED 22 October 2002
TITLE OF INVENTION METHOD OF PRODUCING METHANE GAS		
APPLICANT(S) FOR DO/EO/US YOSHIDA		
Applicant herewith submits to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) the following items and other information:		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This is a <b>FIRST</b> submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371.</li> <li>2. <input type="checkbox"/> This is a <b>SECOND</b> or <b>SUBSEQUENT</b> submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371.</li> <li>3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This express request to begin national examination procedures (35 U.S.C. 371(f)) at any time rather than delay examination until the expiration of the applicable time limit set in 35 U.S.C. 371(b) and PCT Articles 22 and 39(l).</li> <li>4. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A proper Demand for International Preliminary Examination was made by the 19th month from the earliest claimed priority date.</li> <li>5. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A copy of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2))           <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. <input type="checkbox"/> is transmitted herewith (required only if not transmitted by the International Bureau).</li> <li>b. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> has been transmitted by the International Bureau.</li> <li>c. <input type="checkbox"/> is not required, as the application was filed in the United States Receiving Office (RO/US)</li> </ol> </li> <li>6. <input type="checkbox"/> A translation of the International Application into English (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2)).</li> <li>7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendments to the claims of the International Application under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3))           <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. <input type="checkbox"/> are transmitted herewith (required only if not transmitted by the International Bureau).</li> <li>b. <input type="checkbox"/> have been transmitted by the International Bureau.</li> <li>c. <input type="checkbox"/> have not been made; however, the time limit for making such amendments has NOT expired.</li> <li>d. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> have not been made and will not be made.</li> </ol> </li> <li>8. <input type="checkbox"/> A translation of the amendments to the claims under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)).</li> <li>9. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An unsigned oath or declaration of the inventor(s) (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(4)).</li> <li>10. <input type="checkbox"/> A translation of the annexes to the International Preliminary Examination Report under PCT Article 36 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(5)).</li> </ol>		
<b>Items 11. to 16. below concern document(s) or information included:</b>		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>11. <input type="checkbox"/> An Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98.</li> <li>12. <input type="checkbox"/> An assignment document for recording. A separate cover sheet in compliance with 37 CFR 3.28 and 3.31 is included.</li> <li>13. <input type="checkbox"/> A <b>FIRST</b> preliminary amendment. <input type="checkbox"/> A <b>SECOND</b> or <b>SUBSEQUENT</b> preliminary amendment.</li> <li>14. <input type="checkbox"/> A substitute specification.</li> <li>15. <input type="checkbox"/> A change of power of attorney and/or address letter.</li> <li>16. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other items or information: Credit Card Authorization, Application Data Sheet, Communication Regarding Requested Figure, Communication Regarding Foreign Language Specification, International Publication Page, Form PCT/ISA/210, Form PCT/IB/304, Form PCT/IB/308, Form PCT/IPEA/409</li> </ol>		

U.S. APPLICATION NO. (If known, see 37 C.F.R. 1.5) Unknown <b>10/532038</b>	INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PCT/JP2003/013397	ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER 10873.1679USWO	
<b>BASIC NATIONAL FEE (37 CFR 1.492(a) (1)-(5)):</b>			
[X] a) Basic National fee.....		\$300.00	
[X] b) Examination fee.....		\$200.00	
[X] c) Search fee.....		\$500.00	
<b>TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS =</b>		<b>\$1000.00</b>	
Additional fee for specification and drawings filed in paper over 100 sheets (excluding sequence listing or computer program listing filed in an electronic medium). The fee is \$250 for each additional 50 sheets of paper or fraction thereof.			
Total Sheets	Extra Sheets	Number of each additional 50 or fraction thereof (round up to a whole number)	
-100 =	/50 =	X \$250.00	
Surcharge of \$130.00 for furnishing the oath or declaration later than [ ] 20 [ ] 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(e)).		\$	
CLAIMS	NUMBER FILED	NUMBER EXTRA	RATE
Total claims	-20 =		X \$50.00
Independent claims	-3 =		X \$200.00
MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM(S) (if applicable)		+ \$360.00	
<b>TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS =</b>		<b>\$</b>	
Reduction by 1/2 for filing by small entity, if applicable. Small entity status is claimed pursuant to 37 CFR 1.27		\$	
<b>SUBTOTAL =</b>		<b>\$1000.00</b>	
Processing fee of \$130.00 for furnishing the English translation later than [ ] 20 [ ] 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(f)).		+ \$	
<b>TOTAL NATIONAL FEE =</b>		<b>\$1000.00</b>	
Fee for recording the enclosed assignment (37 CFR 1.21(h)). The assignment must be accompanied by an appropriate cover sheet (37 CFR 3.28, 3.31). \$40.00 per property		+ \$	
<b>TOTAL FEES ENCLOSED =</b>		<b>\$</b>	
		Amount to be: refunded \$	
		charged \$1000.00	
<p>a. [ ] Check(s) in the amount of \$____ to cover the above fees is enclosed.</p> <p>b. [X] Please charge the amount of \$1000 to cover the required filing fee for a large entity to the credit card listed on the enclosed credit card authorization form.</p> <p>c. [X] The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-3478.</p>			
<p><b>NOTE: Where an appropriate time limit under 37 CFR 1.494 or 1.495 has not been met, a petition to revive (37 CFR 1.137(a) or (b)) must be filed and granted to restore the application to pending status.</b></p>			
SEND ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO: Douglas P. Mueller Hamre, Schumann, Mueller & Larson, P.C. P.O. Box 2902-0902 Minneapolis, MN 55402		SIGNATURE:  NAME: Douglas P. Mueller REGISTRATION NUMBER: 30,300	

10/532038

JC20 Rec'd PCT/PTO 21 APR 2005  
PATENT

S/N Unknown

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: YOSHIDA      Examiner: Unknown  
Serial No.: Unknown      Group Art Unit: Unknown  
Filed: Herewith      Docket: 10873.1679USWO

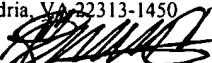
Title: METHOD OF PRODUCING METHANE GAS

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.10

Express Mail mailing label number: ED 769610782 US

Date of Deposit: April 21, 2005

I hereby certify that the papers listed below are being deposited with the United States Postal Service Express Mail Post Office to Addressee service under 37 CFR 1.10 in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Application, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

By: 

Name: Raquel M. Zamorano-Carey

COMMUNICATION REGARDING FOREIGN LANGUAGE SPECIFICATION

Mail Stop PCT  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

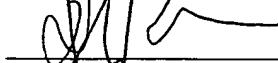
Dear Sir:

In connection with the above-identified application, it is noted that International Application No. PCT/JP2003/013397 was published in the Japanese language. A verified translation will be obtained and will be filed in the Patent Office with required fees in due course.

Respectfully submitted,

HAMRE, SCHUMANN, MUELLER &  
LARSON, P.C.  
P.O. Box 2902-0902  
Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903  
(612) 455-3800

Dated: April 21, 2005

By: 

Douglas P. Mueller  
Reg. No. 30, 300

DPM/pjk

52835  
PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

10/532038

S/N Unknown

JC20 Rec'd PCT/PTO 21 APR 2005  
PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: YOSHIDA      Examiner: Unknown  
Serial No.: Unknown      Group Art Unit: Unknown  
Filed: Herewith      Docket: 10873.1679USWO

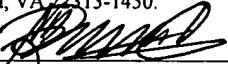
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By:   
Name: Raquel M. Zamorano-Carey

COMMUNICATION REGARDING REQUESTED FIGURE

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In connection with the above-identified application, applicant respectfully requests that Figure 1 be printed on the front page of the published application.

If a telephone conference would be helpful in resolving any issues concerning this communication, please contact Applicants' primary attorney-of record Douglas P. Mueller (Reg. No. 30,300), at (612) 455.3804.

Respectfully submitted,

HAMRE, SCHUMANN, MUELLER &  
LARSON, P.C.  
P.O. Box 2902-0902  
Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903  
(612) 455-3800

By:   
Douglas P. Mueller  
Reg. No. 30,300

Dated: April 21, 2005

DPM/pjk

52835

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

10/532038

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: YOSHIDA

Docket: 10873.1679USWO

Title: METHOD OF PRODUCING METHANE GAS

JC20 Rec'd PCT/PTO 21 APR 2005

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.10:

"Express Mail" mailing label number: ED 769610782 US

Date of Deposit: April 21, 2005

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

By:   
Name: Raquel M. Zamorano-Carey

Mail Stop PCT  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

We are transmitting herewith the attached:

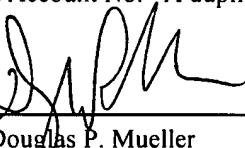
- Transmittal sheet, in duplicate, containing Certificate under 37 CFR 1.10.
- A unsigned Combined Declaration and Power of Attorney
- Please charge the amount of \$1000 to cover the Filing Fee to the credit card listed on the enclosed credit card authorization form.
- Application Data Sheet, 3 pages.
- Other: Form PTO-1390, Credit Card Authorization, Application Data Sheet, Communication Regarding Requested Figure, Communication Regarding Foreign Language Specification, International Publication Page, Form PCT/ISA/210, Form PCT/IB/304, Form PCT/IB/308, Form PCT/IPEA/409
- Return postcard

CLAIMS AS FILED

Number of Claims Filed	No.	In Excess of	Extra	Rate	=	Fee
Total Claims		20		50.00	=	
Independent Claims		3		200.00	=	
Multiple Dependent Claims Fee					=	0.00
Basic Filing Fee					=	300.00
Search Fee					=	500.00
Examination Fee					=	200.00
Utility Application Size Fee		100		250.00	=	
<b>Total</b>					=	1000.00

Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

Hamre, Schumann, Mueller & Larson, P.C.  
P.O. Box 2902-0902 Minneapolis, MN 55402  
612.455-3800

By:   
Name: Douglas P. Mueller  
Reg. No.: 30,300  
Initials: DPM/pjk

52835

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE